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NOTIFICATION

Announcement: Online-Conference on Capacity-Building in Environmental Risk Assessment and Post-Release Monitoring of LMOs, 3-14 November 2008

Madam/Sir,

At the fourth coordination meeting of Governments and organizations involved in implementing and/or funding biosafety capacity-building activities, which was held from 11 to 13 February 2008 in New Delhi, India, the Secretariat was requested to organize, prior to the fifth coordination meeting, two online conferences on capacity-building in: (i) environmental risk assessment and post-release monitoring of living modified organisms (LMOs) and (ii) integration of biosafety into national development plans, strategies and programmes.

I am pleased to inform you that the “Online Conference on Capacity-building in Environmental Risk assessment and Post-Release Monitoring of LMOs” will be held from **3 to 14 November 2008**.

The purpose of the conference is to provide an initial opportunity for participants to review the current status of capacity-building in environmental risk assessment and post-release monitoring of LMOs, to share experiences and lessons learned in this regard, to identify the priority capacity-building needs and to propose forward-looking measures for addressing those needs. The outcomes of the conference will be summarized into a background paper for the face-to-face discussions at the fifth coordination meeting to be held in March 2009. The recommendations of the coordination meeting will be submitted for consideration by the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP).

I wish to invite interested participants from Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to register for the conference. The registration form and other details regarding the conference are available at: http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/about_ra_cb.shtml.

Please note that this online conference on Capacity-Building is different from the Open-ended Online Expert Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management (decision BS-IV/11), which is part of a process that includes an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Risk Assessment and Risk Management, and in which active participation is restricted to nominated experts. For further information on the Open-ended Online Expert Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management, please visit http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/forum_ra.shtml.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Djoghlaflaf
Executive Secretary

To: National Focal Points to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
CBD National Focal Points (where CPB-NFPs have not yet been designated)
Biosafety Clearing-House National Focal Points
Relevant Organizations



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COP9 MOP 4 Bonn Germany 2008



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